

IN THE TITLE:

At Page 1, lines 1 - 2, please delete the Title in its entirety, and replace it with the following Title:

-- METHOD OF INCREASING THE SHELF LIFE OF A BLANK PHOTOMASK
SUBSTRATE --

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, after the Title, please insert the following sentence:

-- This application is a divisional application of Application Serial No. 09/912,116, filed July 23, 2001, which is currently pending. --